

ton to address thousands of British soldiers and distribute Gospels to them, how his heart would have rejoiced. But in God's great planning, this little personal talk with that Belgian soldier was to be the beginning of miracles greater than the big meetings produced, blessed as the results in those meetings were.

Within a few weeks ten thousand Gospels had been forwarded to Peter for personal distribution to ten thousand soldiers in two Belgian regiments. Peter reached practically his whole regiment, not only with the Gospels but with the word of salvation. He made daily trips to see if the men were keeping their promise and really reading daily the little books he had given them. But he was not satisfied. He desired the men to be knit together in a more permanent fellowship. So he wrote to the Nortons that he had started a league of daily Bible readers—"but it has no name. Would you not give us a name, and perhaps have some cards made for the men to sign? Then we could keep in closer touch with them."

That was the beginning of the famous Belgian Scripture League, the name of which in French reads, "La Ligue Des Ecritures Saintes," which is spreading not only in the trenches, but among the thirty thousand Belgian soldiers interned in Holland, in the hospitals in France, and even among prisoners in the Island of Malta. When Peter wrote to the editor of The Sunday-School Times, with characteristic modesty he gave no evidence that he was the real founder of the League. He wrote:

"I met Mr. Norton while I was on leave for a couple of days, and I thank Heaven for this meeting. He brought me on the right way and converted me (for I was a Roman Catholic, but now am a fervent Protestant). He gave me a few little books for the comrades in the trenches, which I distributed soon after my return among them. . . . Mr. Ralph C. Norton has also founded, a few weeks ago, a Belgian Soldiers' Scripture League,

which is flourishing and getting stronger daily. . . . Membership cards have been printed by Mr. Norton, and Testaments distributed, and the League will soon reach every regiment of the Belgian army. Believe me, that we often pray for all the benefactors and subscribers of the mission to the soldiers as we do for the representatives in England (Mr. and Mrs. Norton) of your noble work."

Last spring when the Nortons met Peter at the front he had in his little book the names of two hundred and fifty of his fellow-soldiers who had accepted Jesus Christ as their Saviour through his word. Later articles of Mrs. Norton will tell further instances of the way in which God is using this man, who, though the chief of the apostles in the trenches, is but one of scores—scores that are growing into hundreds—of soldier boys with whom the Nortons are in personal touch and who are distributing Testaments and winning their fellows to Christ.

That name, mother and father of the Belgian soldiers, is not merely a figure of speech. Many of the homeless Belgian boys who went to England for a few days' leave of absence were taken into the hotel rooms of the Nortons—rooms that were fixed up especially to entertain the boys. Back from eighteen months in the trenches they go straight home to their little mother, who furnishes them with clean socks, washes and mends their old ones, sews on buttons, and does other things that win their hearts and open the way for the message of salvation to take root. Dozens of these boys have in this way been sent back to the trenches as flames of fire for Christ.

But the conges, or furloughs, of most of the Belgian soldiers have been stopped because they have no place to go in England and no money to keep them there. So the Nortons propose to furnish conges for as many of these soldiers as possible. It will cost \$3.50 for each soldier for a week.

A part of the great extension plan that is opening before the Nortons for this second year of their mission is to provide these conges for the Belgian soldiers—a plan that offers unparalleled opportunity for evangelizing the whole Belgian army. Another feature of the plan is to provide Christmas boxes, costing \$1 each, for the Belgian soldiers in the trenches, for the thirty thousand interned in Holland, and for the still more unfortunate Belgian prisoners in Germany. These soldiers more than almost any other soldiers in the world war are friendless and homeless, and the good things to eat that are contained in one of these boxes would indeed warm the heart of the lonely soldier. And in each of the boxes will be a little Flemish and French Gospel. It has been through the loving, kindly attention to the physical needs of these soldiers that the Nortons have found the way into their hearts and have planted Christ there.

Hitherto all the contributions that have come from readers of The Sunday-School Times have gone into the purchase of the Gospels and Testaments that have accomplished these miracles of salvation. Now quick advantage must be taken of this new extension work, made possible by the co-operation of the highest Belgian authorities, and the Nortons have asked the friends of the work to provide at least \$50,000 for the coming year. Ten times that amount could be used blessedly, but the \$50,000 is a minimum of what should be provided.

Recently a business man, who is a reader of The Sunday-School Times, read in some literature that came to him of an opportunity for tract distribution that would result in a harvest of souls. The cost of the plan

with the follow-up work was noted as \$31,000. The business man asked the privilege of contributing this entire sum if the way was opened. "Now guess what happened?" he wrote to The Sunday-School Times—"no, not happened, rather followed. New business opportunities opened up in a marvelous way, and it now seems that I shall be able to make the offering within twelve months or less."

Perhaps some reader of The Sunday-School Times may be led to send a check for \$50,000 to the treasurer of the evangelistic campaign for the soldiers. (The editor of The Sunday-School Times has the privilege of being the treasurer of this great work, and may be addressed "Charles G. Trumbull, 1031 Walnut Street, Philadelphia.")

But if you cannot give \$50,000, send in your smaller gift of your pledge of what you can give for the year to come, whether it be one conge, to cost \$3.50, or one box to cost a dollar. Remember, that it was one soldier on conge in England who received a Testament from Mr. Norton on that memorable day in August. But that one soldier was Peter, and he was sent there by God, who is ready to work still greater miracles in this campaign, but His miracles will always be measured by our faith. He can do it only if we pray.—Sunday-School Times.

#### KOREANS MORTGAGE HOMES TO LIFT CHURCH MORTGAGE.

A careful review of the status of Christianity in Korea by an authority in missionary administration, reveals the following striking characteristics of the Korean Church, which might well be taken as examples for the churches of our own land:

1. The Korean Christians are devoted to the study of the word. It is their daily bread. Hundreds gather in classes to study, oftentimes coming at great sacrifice. They go back to their homes and give out to friends and neighbors what they have learned and then come again for another season of study.
2. The Korean Church is a praying Church. Names of people are regu-

larly mentioned in prayer meetings. Whole nights in prayer are not uncommon.

3. The Korean Christians feel that witnessing is both a duty and a privilege. Many give months to regular evangelistic trips. In this way the Church has been built up. In the Gospel Society (the Woman's Missionary Society of Korea), all members tithe and then give freewill offerings. A regular time each day is observed for prayer, and members are sent out to the needier districts to witness for the Master. These are prepared by a revival season of prayer. What a lesson for the Missionary Society at home!

4. The Koreans are liberal, self-denying. They teach us lessons of sacrificial giving. No meal is cooked without some rice being put into the "Lord box." They have been known to mortgage their homes to lift the mortgage from the church. They are stewards of the word and of all they possess. Tithing is a common practice and is rapidly being extended. Korean Christians give liberally to missions and have sent out missionaries of their own to neighboring countries.

A student from India states that he spent three years in London, and during all this time no one spoke to him of Christianity. Students in America from non-Christian lands have had similar experience. The un-Christian way in which some Church people treat foreign students is hard to explain. Many foreign students could teach some Americans lessons in Christianity.



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